PATENT

DOCKET NO.: MSFT-0766 / 191575.01

Application No.: 10/001,289

Office Action Dated: February 14, 2006

REMARKS

Applicants' representative would like to thank the examiner for the courtesy extended in the telephonic interview conducted on March 31, 2006. As Applicants' representative discussed during that interview, the aspects of using a record or a buffer into which the hierarchical data is stored before it is copied into the relational tables is the aspect of the invention that differentiates over the references cited by the examiner. Applicants have amended the claims as indicated to further clarify the distinction over the reference as noted in more detail below.

Claims 1-32 are pending in the present application, with claims 1, 14, and 25 being the independent claims. Claims 6, 13, 16 and 24 are canceled by this amendment. In summary of the outstanding office action, claims 1-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Lee et al., U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0169788.

Applicants submit that the claims, as amended, patentable define over Lee at al. In the action, the examiner indicates that Lee teaches "creating a record in a first buffer associated with the first relational table and copying the record from the first buffer to the first relational table at paragraph 96, 108, 110." While Applicants do not necessarily agree with that analysis, Applicants have amended the claims to more clearly recite the claimed invention. Applicants submit that the claims as amended indicate that data in the hierarchical data source is associated with two different relational tables. By way of general understanding, some of the data from the hierarchical data source is stored in a first record associated with a first relational data prior to insertion into the corresponding relational table and some other of the data is stored in a second record associated with a second relational table.

More specifically, claim 1, as amended, recites:

storing the data in a record in a first buffer associated with the first relational table;

identifying a third node within the hierarchical data corresponding to a first column in a second relational table and fourth node associated with the third node corresponding to data to be stored in a row of the second relational table....

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As indicated by the excerpted portion of independent claim 1, data is stored in a record in a first buffer associated with the first table. Additionally, hierarchical data also has data corresponding to data to be stored in a row of a second relational table. For at least the foregoing reasons, independent claim 1 patentably defines over Lee.

Inasmuch as claims 2-5 and 7-12 depend from claim 1, they also patentably define over Lee at least for the same reasons.

Claim 14, as amended, recites:

streaming the records into the at least two different relational tables by inserting the records from the file into the at least two different relational tables

Lee does not teach or suggest streaming records into at least two different tables as claimed. For at least that reason, claim 14 also patentably defines over Lee.

In as much as claims 15 and 17-23 depend from claim 14, those claims also patentably define over Lee at least for the same reason.

Claim 25, as amended, has a similar limitation:

instructions for streaming the records into the at least two different relational tables by inserting the records into the at least two different relational tables.

For at least that reason, claim 25 also patentably defines over Lee.

Inasmuch as claims 36-32 depend from claim 25, they also define over Lee for at least the same reason.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants' representative submits that claims 1-5, 7-12, 14, 15, 17-23 and 25-32 are in condition for allowance.

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